

U.S. Embassy Ljubljana, Slovenia

Security Message for U.S. Citizens

Demonstrations in Slovenia

December 21, 2012

U.S. Embassy Ljubljana informs U.S. citizens that a coalition of unions, veteran and student groups, and other organizations in Slovenia are planning a public demonstration on Friday, December 21. As of the drafting of this message, over 10,000 people have confirmed their participation via social media sites. The gathering is scheduled to begin at 3pm in Ljubljana's Kongresni Trg before moving towards Trg Republike. Street closures and other traffic disruptions are possible.

A small protest at Cankarjev dom in Ljubljana is reportedly scheduled for Saturday, December 22 at 6pm. Press reports also indicate that additional protests may take place across Slovenia in the coming weeks.

During recent protests throughout the country, firecrackers and other objects were thrown at the police, who responded by using tear gas and other means to disperse parts of the crowd. Injuries were also reported and several protesters were arrested.

We encourage all U.S. citizens to exercise common sense security measures. Be cautious if you must enter areas where you may be a target of crime or violence. Even demonstrations intended to be peaceful can turn confrontational and escalate into violence. You should avoid areas of demonstrations, and exercise caution if in the vicinity of any large gatherings, protests, or demonstrations.

Current information on safety and security can also be obtained by calling 1-888-407-4747 toll-free in the United States or a regular toll line at 1-202-501-4444 for callers from other countries. These numbers are available from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Eastern Time, Monday through Friday (except U.S. federal holidays). You can also stay up to date by bookmarking our [Bureau of Consular Affairs website](#), which contains the current [Travel Warnings and Travel Alerts](#) as well as the [Worldwide Caution](#). Follow the Bureau of Consular Affairs on [Facebook](#) as well. We strongly encourage U.S. citizens living or traveling in Slovenia to [register with the U.S. Embassy in Ljubljana through the State Department's Smart Traveler Enrollment Program \(STEP\)](#) to obtain updated information on travel and security within Slovenia. By registering, U.S. citizens make it easier for the Embassy or

Consulate to contact them in case of emergency. U.S. citizens without Internet access may register directly at the U.S. Embassy in Ljubljana.

Regularly monitor the [State Department's website](#), where you can find current Travel Warnings, Travel Alerts, and the Worldwide Caution. Read the [Country Specific Information](#) for Slovenia. For additional information, refer to “[A Safe Trip Abroad](#)” on the State Department’s website.

The [U.S. Embassy in Ljubljana](#) is located at Presernova 31. The American Citizens Services Unit telephone number is (386) 1-200-5595. For after-hours emergencies, the number is (386) 1-200-5500.